

CLAIMS:

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A method to test for the ability of a stealth virus to induce the production of auto-fluorescent material in cells, comprising i) culturing blood and/or tissue samples from a stealth virus infected patient in a manner that will allow for the expression of a stealth virus induced cytopathic effect, ii) illuminating the cells and/or cell-derived products with light, and iii) examining the infected cells and/or cell derived products, microscopically for the presence of auto-fluorescent material.
2. A method to test for the ability of a stealth virus to induce the production of auto-fluorescent material in bacteria, comprising i) either culturing bacteria derived from a stealth virus infected patient, or culturing normal bacteria that have been exposed to a stealth virus culture, ii) illuminating the cultured bacteria and/or their products with light, and iii) examining the bacteria and/or their products microscopically for the presence of auto-fluorescent material.
3. A method of testing the ability of light to cause damage to stealth virus infected cells that have accumulated auto-fluorescent material, by exposing the cells to light that is capable of inducing auto-fluorescence in the infected cells, and then examining the cells for morphological and/or functional signs of cell damage, that may include cell death.
4. A method of treating a stealth virus infected patient based on exposing known or suspected virus infected cells within the patient to a light source that includes wavelengths that can be shown to cause auto-fluorescence and morphological and/or functional signs of cell damage to cultured cells infected with a stealth virus obtained from the infected patient, and not to cause similar morphological and/or functional signs of cell damage to corresponding normal uninfected cells.
5. The method of claim 4 in which the stealth virus infected cells are causing diseases in animals.
6. The method of claim 4 in which the stealth virus infected cells in the patient are present within a cancer.
7. The method of claim 5 in which the therapy is applied to a known cancer mass present within the individual to be treated.
8. The method of claim 5 in which the therapy is applied to any area of the body in which one might expect or suspect microscopic deposits of cancer cells to be present.

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9. The method of claim 4 in which the stealth virus infected cells are causing a non-malignant illness in a patient.
 10. The method of claim 4 in which the exposure to light therapy is restricted to part of the body, or to an external device, through which the patients blood is flowing, such that over time, most of the entire circulating blood volume would be expected to be exposed to the administered light.
 11. A method of treating a stealth virus infected patient based on exposing stealth virus infected bacteria within the patient to a light source that includes wavelengths shown to cause auto-fluorescence of the stealth virus infected bacteria and/or of the products derived from the infected bacteria.
 12. The method of claim 9 in which the stealth virus infected bacteria are causing a bacterial illness.
 13. A method of destroying all or some of any suspected stealth virus infected cells in a blood sample, or in a blood unit to be used for transfusion, or in other biological samples, comprising the use of light administered to the sample in such a manner that has previously been shown to cause the destruction of at least a proportion of the stealth virus infected cells in other blood samples and/or blood units that were known to be infected with a stealth virus.
 14. A method of claim 8 in which the stealth virus infected cells are suspected of being present in a tissue graft to be used for transplantation.
 15. A method of destroying all or some of any suspected stealth virus infected bacteria in an environmental sample, comprising the use of light administered to the sample in such a way that it can be shown to cause the destruction of at least a proportion of the stealth virus infected bacteria in a comparable environmental sample that was known to be infected with a stealth virus. .
 16. A method to test for the ability of a stealth virus to induce the production of material in cells that can be activated by an energy source other than light, comprising i) culturing blood and/or tissue samples from a stealth virus infected patient in a manner that will allow for the expression of a stealth virus induced cytopathic effect, ii) exposing the cells and/or cell-derived products to the energy source, and iii) examining the infected cells for morphological and/or functional signs of cell damage, that may include cell death.
 17. The method of claim 15, in which the energy source is provided by any of the following modalities used alone or in combination with one another: radio-frequency radiation, magnetic field radiation or ultrasound vibration.
 18. The method of claim 15, in which the energy source is used together with light to achieve the desired effect of causing damage to a stealth virus infected cell.

19. A method of treating a stealth virus infected patient based on exposing virus infected cells within the patient to a form of energy, other than light, that can be shown to cause morphological and/or functional signs of cellular damage to cultured cells infected with the stealth virus derived from the patient and not to cause similar morphological and/or functional signs of cell damage to corresponding normal uninfected cells.
20. The method of claim 18, in which the energy source is provided by any of the following modalities used alone or in combination with one another: radio-frequency radiation, magnetic field radiation, or ultrasound vibration.
21. The method of claim 18, in which the energy source is used together with light to achieve the desired effect of causing damage to the stealth virus infected cells within a patient.